AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents.

1. (Currently amended) A method of nasally treating an allergy in a patient ~~in need thereof,~~ comprising intranasally administering to the nasal mucosa of the patient a therapeutically effective amount of between 0.01 and 100 mg per kg of body weight of the patient of chitin microparticles in a chitin microparticle (CMP) preparation to stimulate cell-mediated immunity and anti-inflammatory responses in the nasal tissue, wherein the CMP preparation ~~is administered intranasally or by inhalation and the~~ comprises chitin microparticles that are insoluble in a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or carrier and have an average diameter of less than 10μm, ~~wherein the CMP preparation is administered to a patient in a therapeutically effective amount of between 0.01 and 100mg of CMP per kg of body weight,~~ and ~~wherein~~ the allergy is ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ seasonal respiratory allergies, allergies to aeroallergens, [[and]] or asthma.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the aeroallergen is selected from the group consisting of house mite dust, fungal spores, grass pollens, tree pollens and animal danders.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the chitin microparticle preparation is for allergic desensitisation and further comprises an allergen.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the patient is a non-human animal.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the non-human animal is a horse and the allergy is asthma or is associated with recurrent lung infection.

10-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the CMP preparation is administered prophylactically.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the chitin microparticles have an average diameter of less 5μm.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the chitin microparticles have an average diameter of at least 1μm.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the chitin microparticles are derived from the exoskeletons of crab, shrimp, lobster, cuttlefish, insects or fungi.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the chitin microparticles are obtainable by sonicating or milling purified chitin.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the chitin microparticles are obtainable by coating carrier particles with *N*-Acetyl-D-Glucosamine, chitin or a fragment thereof.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~CMP preparation is administered to humans~~ patient is a human.

36. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the chitin microparticle preparation further comprises one or more of a pharmaceutically acceptable ~~excipient, a carrier, a propellant, a buffer, a stabiliser, an isotonicizing agent, a preservative or an antioxidant~~ propellant, buffer, stabiliser, isotonicizing agent, preservative or antioxidant.

37-43. (Cancelled)